

Message Text

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22-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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DELIVER SANDBERG OPENING OF BUSINESS NOVEMBER 13

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 251861 ACTION LAGOS INFO MONROVIA

23 OCTOBER AND REPEATED INFO ACCRA FREETOWN DAKAR

BAMAKO NIAMEY OUAGADOUGOU ABIDJAN COTONOU CONAKRY

NDJAMENA BANJUL NOUAKCHOTT 1 NOVEMBER 75.

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, NI

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE KISSINGER VISIT TO AFRICA

REF: (A) LAGOS 10292 NOTAL; (B) BRUCE MEMCON)10/16/75

1. FOLLOWING REPLIES PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S
DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OCTOBER 21:

QUESTION: WE UNDERSTAND THE NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER FOR
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE SECRETARY IS
PLANNING TO VISIT NIGERIA EARLY NEXT YEAR. IS THAT RIGHT?

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ANSWER: DURING THEIR MEETING IN NEW YORK ON OCTOBER 1 THE SECRETARY DISCUSSED WITH COMMISSIONER GARBA THE POSSIBILITY OF A VISIT TO AFRICA. AS HE HAS MENTIONED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, THE SECRETARY HOPES TO VISIT AFRICA, BUT NO DEFINITE PLANS HAVE AS YET BEEN MADE.

QUESTION: THERE ALSO WAS REFERENCE TO A PREPARATORY VISIT BY A STATE DEPARTMENT UNDER SECRETARY. IS SOMEONE ELSE GOING TO NIGERIA?

ANSWER: WE HAVE HAD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE NIGERIANS ABOUT A POSSIBLE VISIT BY UNDER SECRETARY CHARLES W. ROBINSON FOR DISCUSSIONS ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL RELATIONS. NO MUTUALLY CONVENIENT DATE HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED, BUT BOTH WE AND THE NIGERIANS HAVE AGREED A VISIT COULD BE USEFUL. A VISIT TO NIGERIA BY THE UNDER SECRETARY COULD SERVE A VARIETY OF PURPOSES, BUT IT WOULD NOT BE INTENDED TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK PER SE FOR A VISIT BY THE SECRETARY.

2. PRESS DID NOT RAISE THIS SUBJECT OCTOBER 21, AND REPLIES THEREFORE NOT USED, BUT EMBASSY MAY DRAW ON THEM IF ASKED.

INGERSOLL UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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